BOTTAZZI et al. Serial No. 09/657,519

ABSTRACT

A dispensing device of portable terminals for acquiring product data in a shopping centre comprises a plurality of static cradles for a corresponding plurality of portable terminals. The terminals are adapted to be withdrawn and used by the customers for acquiring product data. The dispenser has a customer verification unit which identifies each customer enabled to the use of the portable terminals, a communication unit for communicating to each identified customer a terminal to be withdrawn for carrying out the product data acquisition, and a control and data processing unit adapted to control the customer verification unit and the communication unit and to process the product data acquired through said terminals. The plurality of cradles is housed into a substantially flat portion of the container provided in close proximity of the customer identification means so as to allow access to the plurality of terminals.